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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

Marlon Corwin McCowan,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Dennis Kendall, et al.,

Defendants.

No. CV 11-2071-PHX-DGC (ECV)

ORDER

Plaintiff Marlon Corwin McCowan, who is confined in the Maricopa County Fourth Avenue Jail, has filed a *pro se* civil rights Complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and an Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*. The Court will dismiss the Complaint with leave to amend.

I. Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* and Filing Fee

Plaintiff's Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* will be granted. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a). Plaintiff must pay the statutory filing fee of \$350.00. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). The Court will assess an initial partial filing fee of \$14.61. The remainder of the fee will be collected monthly in payments of 20% of the previous month's income each time the amount in the account exceeds \$10.00. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(2). The Court will enter a separate Order requiring the appropriate government agency to collect and forward the fees according to the statutory formula.

II. Statutory Screening of Prisoner Complaints

The Court is required to screen complaints brought by prisoners seeking relief against a governmental entity or an officer or an employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). The Court must dismiss a complaint or portion thereof if a plaintiff has raised

1 claims that are legally frivolous or malicious, that fail to state a claim upon which relief may
2 be granted, or that seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief.
3 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1), (2).

4 A pleading must contain a “short and plain statement of the claim *showing* that the
5 pleader is entitled to relief.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a)(2) (emphasis added). While Rule 8 does not
6 demand detailed factual allegations, “it demands more than an unadorned, the-defendant-
7 unlawfully-harmed-me accusation.” Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 129 S. Ct. 1937, 1949 (2009).
8 “Threadbare recitals of the elements of a cause of action, supported by mere conclusory
9 statements, do not suffice.” Id.

10 “[A] complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to ‘state a
11 claim to relief that is plausible on its face.’” Id. (quoting Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly,
12 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)). A claim is plausible “when the plaintiff pleads factual content
13 that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the
14 misconduct alleged.” Id. “Determining whether a complaint states a plausible claim for
15 relief [is] . . . a context-specific task that requires the reviewing court to draw on its judicial
16 experience and common sense.” Id. at 1950. Thus, although a plaintiff’s specific factual
17 allegations may be consistent with a constitutional claim, a court must assess whether there
18 are other “more likely explanations” for a defendant’s conduct. Id. at 1951.

19 But as the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has instructed, courts
20 must “continue to construe *pro se* filings liberally.” Hebbe v. Pliler, 627 F.3d 338, 342 (9th
21 Cir. 2010). A “complaint [filed by a *pro se* prisoner] ‘must be held to less stringent standards
22 than formal pleadings drafted by lawyers.’” Id. (quoting Erickson v. Pardus, 551 U.S. 89,
23 94 (2007) (*per curiam*)).

24 If the Court determines that a pleading could be cured by the allegation of other facts,
25 a *pro se* litigant is entitled to an opportunity to amend a complaint before dismissal of the
26 action. See Lopez v. Smith, 203 F.3d 1122, 1127-29 (9th Cir. 2000) (*en banc*). The Court
27 should not, however, advise the litigant how to cure the defects. This type of advice “would
28 undermine district judges’ role as impartial decisionmakers.” Pliler v. Ford, 542 U.S. 225,

231 (2004); see also Lopez, 203 F.3d at 1131 n.13 (declining to decide whether the court was required to inform a litigant of deficiencies). The Court will dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for failure to state a claim, but because the Complaint may possibly be saved by amendment, will dismiss the Complaint with leave to amend.

III. Complaint

Plaintiff names the following Defendants in the Complaint: Facility Health Administrator Dennis Kendall, Regional Health Administrator Jim Taylor, Arizona Department of Corrections Director Charles L. Ryan, Arizona Department of Corrections Health Services, Unknown Healthcare Provider, Grievance Coordinator D. Daniels, and Maricopa Medical Center.

Plaintiff raises two claims for relief. In Count I, Plaintiff claims that his Eighth Amendment rights were violated when he was not provided with surgery for a broken hand. Plaintiff alleges that on October 21, 2009, his hand was broken when he was assaulted by another inmate. Plaintiff was seen by a specialist who recommended surgery. Plaintiff states that on November 2, 2009, he was transported to Maricopa Medical Center for surgery, but that after he informed the orthopedic surgeon he has hepatitis C, the surgeon left the room and never returned to speak with Plaintiff. Plaintiff states that he was told that if he had the surgery, it would have to be scheduled with the Arizona Department of Corrections and Maricopa Medical Center and that Plaintiff was then transported back to his unit. Plaintiff claims that after he was returned to his unit, he did not see a medical provider until December 17, 2009, although he requested medical treatment for his hand. Plaintiff filed a grievance regarding the surgery, to which Defendant Kendall responded "the state contracts have been cancelled with hospitals and providers. We are currently developing contracts, you are placed on the schedule with an Orthopedic Surgeon." Plaintiff again filed a grievance on February 8, 2010, to which Defendant Taylor replied that Plaintiff had been scheduled for additional tests. Plaintiff further claims Defendant Daniels told Plaintiff that he could not help Plaintiff with the issue. Plaintiff appealed to Defendant Ryan, who responded that Plaintiff was scheduled to meet with a healthcare provider in September 2010. Plaintiff

1 claims that he was never seen by a healthcare provider in September 2010 and never received
2 any additional treatment for his hand. Plaintiff claims that his hand healed improperly and
3 is disfigured because of lack of treatment.

4 In Count II, Plaintiff claims that his Eighth Amendment rights were violated when the
5 Orthopedic surgeon failed to perform surgery on Plaintiff after discovering that Plaintiff had
6 hepatitis C. Plaintiff also claims that Defendant Ryan cut funds to treat inmates with
7 hepatitis C.

8 Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief and money damages.

9 **IV. Failure to State a Claim**

10 **A. Improper Defendants**

11 Arizona Department of Corrections Health Services is simply an administrative
12 division of the Arizona Department of Corrections and, therefore, is not a proper Defendant.
13 Under the Eleventh Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, a state or state
14 agency may not be sued in federal court without its consent. Pennhurst State Sch. & Hosp.
15 v. Halderman, 465 U.S. 89, 100 (1984); Taylor v. List, 880 F.2d 1040, 1045 (9th Cir. 1989).
16 Furthermore, “a state is not a ‘person’ for purposes of section 1983. Likewise ‘arms of the
17 State’ such as the Arizona Department of Corrections are not ‘persons’ under section 1983.”
18 Gilbreath v. Cutter Biological, Inc., 931 F.2d 1320, 1327 (9th Cir. 1991) (citation omitted).
19 Therefore, the Court will dismiss Defendant Arizona Department of Corrections Health
20 Services.

21 Similarly, Maricopa Medical Center is not a proper Defendant. The Maricopa Medical
22 Center is simply an administrative creation of Maricopa County and not a “person” amenable
23 to suit pursuant to § 1983. Accordingly, the Maricopa Medical Center will be dismissed
24 from this action.

25 **B. Count I**

26 Although *pro se* pleadings are liberally construed, Haines v. Kerner, 404 U.S. 519,
27 520-21 (1972), conclusory and vague allegations will not support a cause of action. Ivey v.
28 Board of Regents of the University of Alaska, 673 F.2d 266, 268 (9th Cir. 1982). Further,

1 a liberal interpretation of a civil rights complaint may not supply essential elements of the
2 claim that were not initially pled. Id. Finally, to state a valid claim under § 1983, plaintiffs
3 must allege that they suffered a specific injury as a result of specific conduct of a defendant
4 and show an affirmative link between the injury and the conduct of that defendant. See
5 Rizzo v. Goode, 423 U.S. 362, 371-72, 377 (1976).

6 In Count I, Plaintiff has not linked the denial of his hand surgery to any particular
7 defendant or the policies of a particular Defendant. It is therefore unclear which Defendant
8 or Defendants were responsible for denying Plaintiff his hand surgery. Plaintiff has failed to
9 state a claim with respect to these allegations.

10 To the extent that Plaintiff alleges a violation of his constitutional rights based on the
11 denial of his grievances, the mere denial of or failure to respond to a grievance does not give
12 rise to the inference of active unconstitutional behavior. Where a defendant's only
13 involvement in the allegedly unconstitutional conduct is the denial of administrative
14 grievances, the failure to intervene on a prisoner's behalf to remedy alleged unconstitutional
15 behavior does not amount to active unconstitutional behavior for purposes of § 1983. Shehee
16 v. Luttrell, 199 F.3d 295, 300 (6th Cir. 1999).

17 Plaintiff has therefore failed to state a claim in Count I.

18 **C. Count II**

19 In Count II, Plaintiff claims that the orthopedic surgeon at the Maricopa Medical
20 Center denied Plaintiff's Eighth Amendment rights by failing to perform surgery on
21 Plaintiff's hand after discovering Plaintiff has hepatitis C. The Court notes first that Plaintiff
22 has not named the orthopedic surgeon as a Defendant to the Complaint. Even if Plaintiff had
23 named the orthopedic surgeon, Plaintiff's allegations do not state an Eighth Amendment
24 medical claim.

25 Not every claim by a prisoner relating to inadequate medical treatment states a
26 violation of the Eighth Amendment. To state a § 1983 medical claim, a plaintiff must show
27 that the defendants acted with "deliberate indifference to serious medical needs." Jett v.
28 Penner, 439 F.3d 1091, 1096 (9th Cir. 2006) (quoting Estelle v. Gamble, 429 U.S. 97, 104

1 (1976)). A plaintiff must show (1) a “serious medical need” by demonstrating that failure
2 to treat the condition could result in further significant injury or the unnecessary and wanton
3 infliction of pain and (2) the defendant’s response was deliberately indifferent. Jett, 439 F.3d
4 at 1096 (quotations omitted).

5 “Deliberate indifference is a high legal standard.” Toguchi v. Chung, 391 F.3d 1051,
6 1060 (9th Cir. 2004). To act with deliberate indifference, a prison official must both know
7 of and disregard an excessive risk to inmate health; “the official must both be aware of facts
8 from which the inference could be drawn that a substantial risk of serious harm exists, and
9 he must also draw the inference.” Farmer v. Brennan, 511 U.S. 825, 837 (1994). Deliberate
10 indifference in the medical context may be shown by a purposeful act or failure to respond
11 to a prisoner’s pain or possible medical need and harm caused by the indifference. Jett, 439
12 F.3d at 1096. Deliberate indifference may also be shown when a prison official intentionally
13 denies, delays, or interferes with medical treatment or by the way prison doctors respond to
14 the prisoner’s medical needs. Estelle, 429 U.S. at 104-05; Jett, 439 F.3d at 1096.

15 Deliberate indifference is a higher standard than negligence or lack of ordinary due
16 care for the prisoner’s safety. Farmer, 511 U.S. at 835. “Neither negligence nor gross
17 negligence will constitute deliberate indifference.” Clement v. California Dep’t of
18 Corrections, 220 F. Supp. 2d 1098, 1105 (N.D. Cal. 2002); see also Broughton v. Cutter
19 Labs., 622 F.2d 458, 460 (9th Cir. 1980) (mere claims of “indifference,” “negligence,” or
20 “medical malpractice” do not support a claim under § 1983). “A difference of opinion does
21 not amount to deliberate indifference to [a plaintiff’s] serious medical needs.” Sanchez v.
22 Vild, 891 F.2d 240, 242 (9th Cir. 1989). A mere delay in medical care, without more, is
23 insufficient to state a claim against prison officials for deliberate indifference. See Shapley
24 v. Nevada Bd. of State Prison Comm’rs, 766 F.2d 404, 407 (9th Cir. 1985). The indifference
25 must be substantial. The action must rise to a level of “unnecessary and wanton infliction
26 of pain.” Estelle, 429 U.S. at 105.

27 In this case, the surgeon’s motive for failing to perform surgery on Plaintiff’s hand
28 is unclear; Plaintiff has not alleged facts showing that the surgeon was deliberately

1 indifferent to Plaintiff's medical needs. Plaintiff's facts suggest that Plaintiff may not have
2 been scheduled for surgery on November 2, 2009, but was only being seen for an initial
3 examination by the surgeon, with surgery to be scheduled later, and that failure to schedule
4 the surgery was the fault of an individual at the Arizona Department of Corrections.

5 To the extent that Plaintiff claims Defendants Ryan and Governor Brewer have cut
6 funding for treatment of inmates with hepatitis C, Plaintiff has not sufficiently linked this
7 claim to his injuries. Plaintiff has not demonstrated how cuts in funding for hepatitis C
8 treatment affected his ability to receive surgery for an injury not related to his hepatitis C
9 condition. Plaintiff has therefore failed to state a claim in Count II.

10 **V. Leave to Amend**

11 For the foregoing reasons, Plaintiff's Complaint will be dismissed for failure to state
12 a claim upon which relief may be granted. Within 30 days, Plaintiff may submit a first
13 amended complaint to cure the deficiencies outlined above. The Clerk of Court will mail
14 Plaintiff a court-approved form to use for filing a first amended complaint. If Plaintiff fails
15 to use the court-approved form, the Court may strike the amended complaint and dismiss this
16 action without further notice to Plaintiff.

17 If Plaintiff files an amended complaint, Plaintiff must write short, plain statements
18 telling the Court: (1) the constitutional right Plaintiff believes was violated; (2) the name of
19 the Defendant who violated the right; (3) exactly what that Defendant did or failed to do;
20 (4) how the action or inaction of that Defendant is connected to the violation of Plaintiff's
21 constitutional right; and (5) what specific injury Plaintiff suffered because of that
22 Defendant's conduct. See Rizzo, 423 U.S. at 371-72, 377.

23 Plaintiff must repeat this process for each person he names as a Defendant. If Plaintiff
24 fails to affirmatively link the conduct of each named Defendant with the specific injury
25 suffered by Plaintiff, the allegations against that Defendant will be dismissed for failure to
26 state a claim. **Conclusory allegations that a Defendant or group of Defendants have
27 violated a constitutional right are not acceptable and will be dismissed.**

28 Plaintiff must clearly designate on the face of the document that it is the "First

1 Amended Complaint.” The first amended complaint must be retyped or rewritten in its
2 entirety on the court-approved form and may not incorporate any part of the original
3 Complaint by reference. Plaintiff may include only one claim per count.

4 A first amended complaint supersedes the original complaint. Ferdik v. Bonzelet, 963
5 F.2d 1258, 1262 (9th Cir. 1992); Hal Roach Studios v. Richard Feiner & Co., 896 F.2d 1542,
6 1546 (9th Cir. 1990). After amendment, the Court will treat an original complaint as
7 nonexistent. Ferdik, 963 F.2d at 1262. Any cause of action that was raised in the original
8 complaint is waived if it is not raised in a first amended complaint. King v. Atiyeh, 814 F.2d
9 565, 567 (9th Cir. 1987).

10 **VI. Warnings**

11 **A. Release**

12 Plaintiff must pay the unpaid balance of the filing fee within 120 days of his release.
13 Also, within 30 days of his release, he must either (1) notify the Court that he intends to pay
14 the balance or (2) show good cause, in writing, why he cannot. Failure to comply may result
15 in dismissal of this action.

16 **B. Address Changes**

17 Plaintiff must file and serve a notice of a change of address in accordance with Rule
18 83.3(d) of the Local Rules of Civil Procedure. Plaintiff must not include a motion for other
19 relief with a notice of change of address. Failure to comply may result in dismissal of this
20 action.

21 **C. Copies**

22 Plaintiff must submit an additional copy of every filing for use by the Court. See
23 LRCiv 5.4. Failure to comply may result in the filing being stricken without further notice
24 to Plaintiff.

25 **D. Possible “Strike”**

26 Because the Complaint has been dismissed for failure to state a claim, if Plaintiff fails
27 to file an amended complaint correcting the deficiencies identified in this Order, the
28 dismissal may count as a “strike” under the “3-strikes” provision of 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

1 Under the 3-strikes provision, a prisoner may not bring a civil action or appeal a civil
2 judgment *in forma pauperis* under 28 U.S.C. § 1915 “if the prisoner has, on 3 or more prior
3 occasions, while incarcerated or detained in any facility, brought an action or appeal in a
4 court of the United States that was dismissed on the grounds that it is frivolous, malicious,
5 or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, unless the prisoner is under
6 imminent danger of serious physical injury.” 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

7 **E. Possible Dismissal**

8 If Plaintiff fails to timely comply with every provision of this Order, including these
9 warnings, the Court may dismiss this action without further notice. See Ferdik, 963 F.2d at
10 1260-61 (a district court may dismiss an action for failure to comply with any order of the
11 Court).

12 **IT IS ORDERED:**

13 (1) Plaintiff’s Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (Doc. 3) is **granted**.

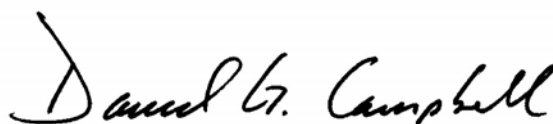
14 (2) As required by the accompanying Order to the appropriate government agency,
15 Plaintiff must pay the \$350.00 filing fee and is assessed an initial partial filing fee of \$14.61.

16 (3) The Complaint (Doc. 1) is **dismissed** for failure to state a claim. Plaintiff has
17 **30 days** from the date this Order is filed to file a first amended complaint in compliance with
18 this Order.

19 (4) If Plaintiff fails to file an amended complaint within 30 days, the Clerk of
20 Court must, without further notice, enter a judgment of dismissal of this action with prejudice
21 that states that the dismissal may count as a “strike” under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

22 (5) The Clerk of Court must mail Plaintiff a court-approved form for filing a civil
23 rights complaint by a prisoner.

24 DATED this 12th day of December, 2011.

25
26 
27

28

David G. Campbell
United States District Judge

**Instructions for a Prisoner Filing a Civil Rights Complaint
in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona**

1. Who May Use This Form. The civil rights complaint form is designed to help incarcerated persons prepare a complaint seeking relief for a violation of their federal civil rights. These complaints typically concern, but are not limited to, conditions of confinement. **This form should not be used to challenge your conviction or sentence.** If you want to challenge a state conviction or sentence, you should file a petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 for a writ of habeas corpus by a person in state custody. If you want to challenge a federal conviction or sentence, you should file a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 to vacate sentence in the federal court that entered the judgment.
2. The Form. **Local Rule of Civil Procedure (LRCiv) 3.4(a) provides that complaints by incarcerated persons must be filed on the court-approved form.** The form must be typed or neatly handwritten. The form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. All questions must be answered clearly and concisely in the appropriate space on the form. If needed, you may attach additional pages, **but no more than fifteen additional pages**, of standard letter-sized paper. You must identify which part of the complaint is being continued and number all pages. If you do not fill out the form properly, you will be asked to submit additional or corrected information, which may delay the processing of your action. You do not need to cite law.
3. Your Signature. You must tell the truth and sign the form. If you make a false statement of a material fact, you may be prosecuted for perjury.
4. The Filing Fee. The filing fee for this action is \$350.00. If you are unable to immediately pay the filing fee, you may request leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. Please review the “Information for Prisoners Seeking Leave to Proceed with a (Non-Habeas) Civil Action in Federal Court *In Forma Pauperis* Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915” for additional instructions.
5. Original and Judge’s Copy. You must send an **original plus one copy** of your complaint and of any other documents submitted to the Court. You must send one additional copy to the Court if you wish to have a file-stamped copy of the document returned to you. All copies must be identical to the original. Copies may be legibly handwritten.
6. Where to File. You should file your complaint in the division **where you were confined when your rights were allegedly violated.** See LRCiv 5.1(a) and 77.1(a). If you were confined in Maricopa, Pinal, Yuma, La Paz, or Gila County, file in the Phoenix Division. If you were confined in Apache, Navajo, Coconino, Mohave, or Yavapai County, file in the Prescott Division. If you were confined in Pima, Cochise, Santa Cruz, Graham, or Greenlee County, file in the Tucson Division. **Mail the original and one copy of the complaint with the \$350 filing fee or the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* to:**

Phoenix & Prescott Divisions:
U.S. District Court Clerk
U.S. Courthouse, Suite 130
401 West Washington Street, SPC 10
Phoenix, Arizona 85003-2119

OR

Tucson Division:
U.S. District Court Clerk
U.S. Courthouse, Suite 1500
405 West Congress Street
Tucson, Arizona 85701-5010

7. Change of Address. You must immediately notify the Court and the defendants in writing of any change in your mailing address. **Failure to notify the Court of any change in your mailing address may result in the dismissal of your case.**

8. Certificate of Service. You must furnish the defendants with a copy of any document you submit to the Court (except the initial complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*). Each original document (except the initial complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*) must include a certificate of service on the last page of the document stating the date a copy of the document was mailed to the defendants and the address to which it was mailed. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(a), (d). Any document received by the Court that does not include a certificate of service may be stricken. A certificate of service should be in the following form:

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing document was mailed
this _____ (month, day, year) to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Attorney for Defendant(s)

(Signature)

9. Amended Complaint. If you need to change any of the information in the initial complaint, you must file an amended complaint. The amended complaint must be written on the court-approved civil rights complaint form. You may file one amended complaint without leave (permission) of Court before any defendant has answered your original complaint. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a). After any defendant has filed an answer, you must file a motion for leave to amend and lodge (submit) a proposed amended complaint. LRCiv 15.1. In addition, an amended complaint may not incorporate by reference any part of your prior complaint. LRCiv 15.1(a)(2). **Any allegations or defendants not included in the amended complaint are considered dismissed.** All amended complaints are subject to screening under the Prison Litigation Reform Act; screening your amendment will take additional processing time.

10. Exhibits. You should not submit exhibits with the complaint or amended complaint. Instead, the relevant information should be paraphrased. You should keep the exhibits to use to support or oppose a motion to dismiss, a motion for summary judgment, or at trial.

11. Letters and Motions. It is generally inappropriate to write a letter to any judge or the staff of any judge. The only appropriate way to communicate with the Court is by filing a written pleading or motion.

12. Completing the Civil Rights Complaint Form.

HEADING:

1. Your Name. Print your name, prison or inmate number, and institutional mailing address on the lines provided.
2. Defendants. If there are **four or fewer** defendants, print the name of each. If you name **more than four** defendants, print the name of the first defendant on the first line, write the words “and others” on the second line, and attach an additional page listing the names of **all** of the defendants. Insert the additional page after page 1 and number it “1-A” at the bottom.
3. Jury Demand. If you want a jury trial, you must write “JURY TRIAL DEMANDED” in the space below “CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT BY A PRISONER.” Failure to do so may result in the loss of the right to a jury trial. A jury trial is not available if you are seeking only injunctive relief.

Part A. JURISDICTION:

1. Nature of Suit. Mark whether you are filing the complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for state, county, or city defendants; “Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Narcotics Agents” for federal defendants; or “other.” If you mark “other,” identify the source of that authority.
2. Location. Identify the institution and city where the alleged violation of your rights occurred.
3. Defendants. Print all of the requested information about each of the defendants in the spaces provided. If you are naming more than four defendants, you must provide the necessary information about each additional defendant on separate pages labeled “2-A,” “2-B,” etc., at the bottom. Insert the additional page(s) immediately behind page 2.

Part B. PREVIOUS LAWSUITS:

You must identify any other lawsuit you have filed in either state or federal court while you were a prisoner. Print all of the requested information about each lawsuit in the spaces provided. If you have filed more than three lawsuits, you must provide the necessary information about each additional lawsuit on a separate page. Label the page(s) as “2-A,” “2-B,” etc., at the bottom of the page and insert the additional page(s) immediately behind page 2.

Part C. CAUSE OF ACTION:

You must identify what rights each defendant violated. The form provides space to allege three separate counts (**one violation per count**). If you are alleging more than three counts, you must provide the necessary information about each additional count on a separate page. Number the additional pages “5-A,” “5-B,” etc., and insert them immediately behind page 5. Remember that you are limited to a total of fifteen additional pages.

1. Counts. You must identify which civil right was violated. **You may allege the violation of only one civil right per count.**

2. Issue Involved. Check the box that most closely identifies the issue involved in your claim. **You may check only one box per count.** If you check the box marked “Other,” you must identify the specific issue involved.

3. Supporting Facts. After you have identified which civil right was violated, you must state the supporting facts. Be as specific as possible. You must state what each individual defendant did to violate your rights. If there is more than one defendant, you must identify which defendant did what act. You also should state the date(s) on which the act(s) occurred, if possible.

4. Injury. State precisely how you were injured by the alleged violation of your rights.

5. Administrative Remedies. You must exhaust any available administrative remedies before you file a civil rights complaint. See 42 U.S.C. § 1997e. Consequently, you should disclose whether you have exhausted the inmate grievance procedures or administrative appeals for each count in your complaint. If the grievance procedures were not available for any of your counts, fully explain why on the lines provided.

Part D. REQUEST FOR RELIEF:

Print the relief you are seeking in the space provided.

SIGNATURE:

You must sign your name and print the date you signed the complaint. Failure to sign the complaint will delay the processing of your action. Unless you are an attorney, you may not bring an action on behalf of anyone but yourself.

FINAL NOTE

You should follow these instructions carefully. Failure to do so may result in your complaint being stricken or dismissed. All questions must be answered concisely in the proper space on the form. If you need more space, you may attach no more than fifteen additional pages. But the form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. If you attach additional pages, be sure to identify which section of the complaint is being continued and number the pages.

Name and Prisoner/Booking Number

Place of Confinement

Mailing Address

City, State, Zip Code

(Failure to notify the Court of your change of address may result in dismissal of this action.)

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

_____ (Full Name of Plaintiff))	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
vs.)	CASE NO. _____
)	(To be supplied by the Clerk)
(1) _____ (Full Name of Defendant))	
(2) _____)	
(3) _____)	
(4) _____)	
Defendant(s).)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if there are additional Defendants and attach page 1-A listing them.)	

**CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT
BY A PRISONER**

☐ Original Complaint
☐ First Amended Complaint
☐ Second Amended Complaint

A. JURISDICTION

1. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to:
- ☐ 28 U.S.C. § 1343(a); 42 U.S.C. § 1983
 - ☐ 28 U.S.C. § 1331; Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Narcotics Agents, 403 U.S. 388 (1971).
 - ☐ Other: _____
2. Institution/city where violation occurred: _____

B. DEFENDANTS

1. Name of first Defendant: _____. The first Defendant is employed as:
_____ at _____.
(Position and Title) (Institution)
2. Name of second Defendant: _____. The second Defendant is employed as:
_____ at _____.
(Position and Title) (Institution)
3. Name of third Defendant: _____. The third Defendant is employed as:
_____ at _____.
(Position and Title) (Institution)
4. Name of fourth Defendant: _____. The fourth Defendant is employed as:
_____ at _____.
(Position and Title) (Institution)

If you name more than four Defendants, answer the questions listed above for each additional Defendant on a separate page.

C. PREVIOUS LAWSUITS

1. Have you filed any other lawsuits while you were a prisoner? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. If yes, how many lawsuits have you filed? _____. Describe the previous lawsuits:
 - a. First prior lawsuit:
 1. Parties: _____ v. _____
 2. Court and case number: _____
 3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) _____
 - b. Second prior lawsuit:
 1. Parties: _____ v. _____
 2. Court and case number: _____
 3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) _____
 - c. Third prior lawsuit:
 1. Parties: _____ v. _____
 2. Court and case number: _____
 3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) _____

If you filed more than three lawsuits, answer the questions listed above for each additional lawsuit on a separate page.

D. CAUSE OF ACTION

COUNT I

1. State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated: _____

2. **Count I.** Identify the issue involved. Check **only one**. State additional issues in separate counts.
- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic necessities | <input type="checkbox"/> Mail | <input type="checkbox"/> Access to the court | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disciplinary proceedings | <input type="checkbox"/> Property | <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise of religion | <input type="checkbox"/> Retaliation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive force by an officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Threat to safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

3. **Supporting Facts.** State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count I. Describe exactly what **each Defendant** did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without citing legal authority or arguments.

4. **Injury.** State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).

- ## 5. Administrative Remedies:

- a. Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- b. Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count I? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- c. Did you appeal your request for relief on Count I to the highest level? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- d. If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you did not. _____

COUNT II

1. State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated: _____

2. **Count II.** Identify the issue involved. Check **only one**. State additional issues in separate counts.

□ Basic necessities

□ Mail

☐ Access to the court

☐ Medical care

☐ Disciplinary proceedings

□ Property

☐ Exercise of religion

□ Retaliation

☐ Excessive force by an officer

- Threat to safety

☐ Other:

3. **Supporting Facts.** State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count II. Describe exactly what **each Defendant** did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without citing legal authority or arguments.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on its right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

4. **Injury.** State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).

- ## 5. Administrative Remedies.

- a. Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- b. Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count II? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- c. Did you appeal your request for relief on Count II to the highest level? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- d. If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you did not. _____

COUNT III

1. State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated: _____.
2. **Count III.** Identify the issue involved. Check **only one**. State additional issues in separate counts.
☐ Basic necessities ☐ Mail ☐ Access to the court ☐ Medical care
☐ Disciplinary proceedings ☐ Property ☐ Exercise of religion ☐ Retaliation
☐ Excessive force by an officer ☐ Threat to safety ☐ Other: _____.
3. **Supporting Facts.** State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count III. Describe exactly what **each Defendant** did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without citing legal authority or arguments.

_____.
4. **Injury.** State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).

_____.
5. **Administrative Remedies.**
- a. Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- b. Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count III? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- c. Did you appeal your request for relief on Count III to the highest level? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- d. If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you did not. _____.

If you assert more than three Counts, answer the questions listed above for each additional Count on a separate page.

E. REQUEST FOR RELIEF

State the relief you are seeking:

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on _____
DATE

SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF

(Name and title of paralegal, legal assistant, or
other person who helped prepare this complaint)

(Signature of attorney, if any)

(Attorney's address & telephone number)

ADDITIONAL PAGES

All questions must be answered concisely in the proper space on the form. If you need more space, you may attach no more than fifteen additional pages. But the form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. If you attach additional pages, be sure to identify which section of the complaint is being continued and number all pages.